



Rural Alaska Community Action Program, Inc.

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January 29, 2010

Mr. Jay Ginter
Becky Carls
NOAA Fisheries, AK Region
Alaska Region
P O Box 21668
Juneau, AK 99802-1668

Re: Alaska Native Halibut Subsistence Working Group activities
Purchase Order HA 133F09SE3945
Requisition Number NFFS5000-09-23456
FINAL REPORT for Completed Contract Services

Performance Period Dates: August 10, 2009 through January 29, 2010

The Rural Alaska Community Action Program (RurAL CAP) would like to summarize work completed under the NMFS Purchase Order HA 133F09SE3945 through January 29, 2010.

Under the conditions of our contract, we agreed to and have provided the following:

1. Meeting room and teleconference facilities for one or more meetings per contract year in a mutually agreed upon place and time between NMFS, Alaska Regional staff or other State/Federal personnel, and ANSHWG and facilitate consultation between NMFS and ANSHWG on:
 - a. Implementation of regulations
 - b. Development of cooperative agreements
 - c. Overall implementation of the subsistence halibut program
2. Airfare and travel support to persons who could effectively contribute to the subsistence discussion
3. Summary report of meetings including dates, attendees, agenda, and a synopsis of key points
4. Assist NMFS with compliance of Executive Order 13175.
5. Work with ANSHWG attendees and others to demonstrate that they represent Alaska Native tribes affected by halibut subsistence regulations.
6. Serve as a liaison between ANSHWG and NMFS.

Brief Summary of Activities since August 10, 2009:

Work completed includes preparation and hosting a Working Group meeting December 11, 2009 in Anchorage, assisting in creating the meeting agenda and compiling meeting packets,

Healthy People, Sustainable Communities, Vibrant Cultures

coordinating travel and per diem costs for Working Group participants who attended and participated in the December meeting.

This year, RurAL CAP staff continued to provide technical assistance to ANSHWG participants including:

1. Providing e-mail and fax bulletins on upcoming meetings, agenda items, and subsistence news
2. Maintaining a current ANSHWG participant mailing list and e-mail list
3. Contacting new subsistence staff in regions where there was turnover or underrepresentation.
4. Working with ANSHWG participants and Chair, Iver Malutin, as well as NMFS staff to coordinate logistics, agenda, and presenters for the December 2009 meeting.

December Meeting:

Travel was arranged for Working Group members to attend the NMFS meeting in Anchorage December 11th, 2009. This was the annual full group meeting. The group met for one day at the RurAL CAP central office.

**Alaska Native Subsistence Halibut Working Group
December 11, 2009 Meeting
FINAL AGENDA**

Meeting Time: 9:00 am - 5:00 pm with breaks as needed

Lunch Served at 12:00pm

Agenda Items

1. Call to Order and Introductions – Chair Iver Malutin
2. Group Discussion on Cycle of Chair Election; Electing a Group Secretary
3. NOAA Enforcement of Halibut Regulations - Ron Antaya
4. Halibut regulatory actions that NMFS published - Becky Carls or Jay Ginter
5. Regulatory proposals submitted for Council Consideration - Jane DiCosimo or Jay Ginter
6. Results of Latest Survey of Subsistence Halibut Harvests - Jim Fall
7. Halibut Stock Assessment Outlook - Gregg Williams
8. Analysis of two methods of monitoring sport charter harvests of halibut (Info Provided by Scott Myer, ADF&G Sport Fish Division)
9. Discuss Bycatch issues and Representation at NMFS
10. RurAL CAP Update - Rebekah Lührs
11. Date for Next Meeting and Other Business
12. Adjourn

ANSHWG Members Present:

Iver Malutin, KANA, Working Group Chair
Mike Miller, Sitka Tribe
Mike Sloan, Kawerak
Harvey Kitka, Sitka Tribe
Karen Pletnikoff, APIA
Harry Lincoln, Tununak TC
David O. David, Kwigillingok TC
David Bill Sr., Toksook Bay TC
Gideon Duncan III, Hydaburg Tribe
Patty Brown Schwalenberg, Chugach Regional
Carrie Sykes, CCTHITA
Richard George, CCTHITA
Delice Calcote, AITC

Agency Staff:

Jim Fall, ADF&G
Jay Ginter, DOC/NOAA/NMFS
Greg Williams, IPHC
Ron Antaya, DOC/NOAA/NMFC
Jane DiCosimo, NPFMC
Rebekah Luhrs, RurAL CAP
Janice Berry, RurAL CAP
Olga Malutin, AITC and RurAL CAP Board

****See attached meeting notes for further details from December 11, 2009****

Resolutions or Letters of Support for Participation in ANSHWG

Working Group Members:

Attached, please find a list of all ANSHWG members who have participated in group activities (meetings, activities, securing tribal resolutions, etc.) August 2009-Jan 2010.

As requested, RurAL CAP staff have been working with ANSHWG participants to obtain resolutions of support from the tribal entities they represent. Since 2003, the following resolutions or letters of support for participation in ANSHWG have been received from:

Southeast Alaska Inter-Tribal Fish and Wildlife Commission
Sitka Tribe of Alaska
AVCP
BBNA
APIA
Kawerak

We have now completed the contract services listed in our agreement and provided consultation services between NMFS and ANSHWG regarding the development and implementation of subsistence halibut regulation for the time period of August 10, 2009 – January 29, 2010.

We look forward to continuing to provide these services under a new PO in the coming year.

Thank you for your assistance. If you have any further questions, please contact me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "E. Kazary", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Ellen Kazary

Community Development Manager, 1-800-478-7227 ext. 7358

cc: Cathie Clements, Community Development Division Director
RurAL CAP Accounting/Grants File & Reading File

Rural Alaska Community Action Program, Inc.
Community Development
Attn: ANSHWG
731 E. 8th Ave
Anchorage, Alaska 99520

December 28, 2009

Senator Lisa Murkowski
United States Senator
709 Hart Senate Building
Washington, DC 20510

Re: North Pacific Fisheries Management Council structure

Dear Senator Murkowski,

The Alaska Native Subsistence Halibut Working Group (ANSHWG) requests assistance in obtaining amendments to the Magnuson-Stevens Fisheries Management and Conservation Act (MSA) related to the composition of the North Pacific Fisheries Management Council (NPFMC). The NPFMC, in conjunction with the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), is responsible for decision making on a variety of important issues that impact Native subsistence users in Alaska. As such, it is critical that the concerns and views of Alaskan Native subsistence users are part of the decision making process, on par with that of the commercial fishing industry that currently dominates the NPFMC structure.

The ANSHWG is sponsored by the NMFS in an attempt to fulfill the mandate by Executive Order 13175, which established requirements for regular and meaningful consultation and collaboration with tribal officials in the development of Federal policies that have tribal implications to strengthen the United States' government-to-government relationships with Indian tribes. While ANSHWG continues to give input during the NPFMC process, we are concerned that subsistence users face serious disadvantages when dealing with the NPFMC process. The NPFMC has initiated a rural outreach program to help with this problem and provide rural residents an opportunity to comment on proposed actions. The ANSHWG feels that improved outreach and tribal consultation will not fully solve this problem.

The views of Native Alaskans need to be part of the NPFMC process, in the form of voting seats, positions on advisory panels, government-to-government tribal consultation, participation on workgroups, outreach meetings and public comments. The voting members of the NPFMC do consider recommendations from advisory panels, workgroups and public comments, but they are not bound by any recommendations they offer to the NPFMC. The only way to ensure that the interests of Native Alaskans are fully considered is to establish Native Alaskan voting seats on the NPFMC. These seats will allow Native Alaskans to offer their unique input during all phases of the NPFMC decision making process, thus improving the NPFMC's management of these important fisheries resources.

The ANSHWG is therefore formally requesting your assistance in obtaining tribal representation on the NPFMC in the form of four voting seats through an amendment to the Magnuson-Stevens Act. We propose that these seats be given to representatives of Alaskan federally recognized tribes and/or Alaska Native organizations. Any nominees for these seats should not be directly employed by a Community Development Quota program or the pollock industry.

We look forward to working with you, as well as Senator Begich and Congressman Young, to accomplish these changes. Please contact Iver Malutin, at (907)486-6068 or iver.malutin@kanaweb.org.

Sincerely,

Iver Malutin
Chairman

cc: Senator Begich
Congressman Young
Secretary of Commerce Locke
NPFMC Chairman Olson
NMFS Alaska Regional Administrator Mecum

Alaska Native Subsistence Halibut Working Group
December 11, 2009 Meeting Minutes
Final Meeting Minutes

Members present:

Iver Malutin, KANA, Working Group
Chair

Mike Miller, Sitka Tribe

Mike Sloan, Kawerak

Harvey Kitka, Sitka Tribe

Karen Pletnikoff, APIA

Harry Lincoln, Tununak TC

David O. David, Kwigillingok TC

David Bill Sr., Toksook Bay TC

Gideon Duncan III, Hydaburg Tribe

Patty Brown Schwalenberg, Chugach
Regional

Carrie Sykes, CCTHITA

Richard George, CCTHITA

Delice Calcote, AITC

Olga Malutin, AITC and RurAL CAP

Agency Staff:

Jim Fall, ADF&G

Jay Ginter, DOC/NOAA/NMFS

Greg Williams, IPHC

Ron Antaya, DOC/NOAA/NMFC

Jane DiCosimo, NPFMC

Rebekah Luhrs, RurAL CAP

Janice Berry, RurAL CAP

The meeting was called to order at 9:15 am. David O. David started the group off in prayer and A moment of silence was taken in memory of Teddy Kugchun, an ANSHWG member who passed away this year.

Introductions were made by committee members.

Cycle of Chair Election

A motion was made to retain the present Chair, Iver Malutin, and to begin another two-year cycle next year. All approved. There was discussion about electing a group secretary to take minutes. The group is satisfied with RurAL CAP staff continuing to take minutes. No group secretary was elected.

Halibut Regulatory Actions Published by NMFS

Jay Ginter gave an update of the newest regulatory actions. His handout was titled, "Current Regulatory Projects for Halibut Fisheries: 12/4/09." Most relevant was the Rural Resident Definition, which became effective 12/4/09, which defines new areas outside of existing rural communities in which a resident would qualify for subsistence halibut fishing.

NOAA Enforcement of Halibut Regulations

Ron Antaya, provided an update on the Enforcement division's activities over the past year, noting that there is a new commissioner for that agency, and that they are stepping up efforts by doing outreach in order to prevent violation of halibut regulations.

Regulatory Proposals submitted for Council Consideration

Jane DiCosimo distributed a draft of 14 IFQ Implementation Team Motions to

change regulations, of which 7 proposals were approved for consideration. None were subsistence related. Jane also described plans for a new outreach program NPFMC is developing in regards to salmon bycatch to advise about rural issues.

Lunch Break

Results of Latest Survey of Subsistence Halibut Harvests

Jim Fall showed a PowerPoint presentation regarding subsistence harvests numbers. Among the discussion points were how to enhance the registration process, a comparison of tribal and rural harvests, results of surveys, and reasons for the drop in number of SHARC holders.

Mike Miller introduced a motion to send a letter to the NMFC thanking them for NPFMC funding, and to request continued funding. All were in favor. Motion passed.

Mike Sloan made a motion to write a letter to Alaska senators to change the Magnuson-Stevens Act in order to establish four voting seats on the North Pacific Fishery Management Council. All were in favor. Motion passed.

Halibut Stock Assessment Outlook

Gregg Williams gave a report on his commission's work in the Alaska region. He showed a PowerPoint regarding the 2009 Pacific Halibut Assessment. The average weight as well as average age of halibut is dropping each year.

Monitoring Sport Charter Harvests of Halibut

Jay Ginter described how the state analyzes halibut harvests by sport charters: logbooks, postcards to clients, statewide surveys, etc. He distributed a handout titled, "Summary of ADF&G Charter Logbook Halibut Data Evaluation, 2006-2008," prepared by Scott Myer of ADF&G Sport Fish.

Discuss Salmon/Halibut Bycatch Issues

There was a lengthy discussion on whether to expand the ANSHWG scope beyond halibut, however, after weighing the pros and cons, the group decided not to change since the group is working so well as it is. Mike Miller made a motion, seconded by Carrie, to revisit bycatch caps. All were in favor. Motion passed.

RurAL CAP Update

Rebekah Luhrs gave an update the group on funds remaining in the ANSHWG budget.

Date for Next Meeting

It was decided to let the Chair determine the next time of the meeting. The meeting adjourned at 4:45 pm.

Follow-Up Actions

1. Rebekah to send copies of Jim and Gregg's PowerPoint presentations to group.
2. Need to determine who promised to write which letters in passed motions for this meeting.
3. Date of next ANSHWG meeting needs to be decided by chair and circulated.

Alaska Native Subsistence Halibut Working Group
2009-2010 (Dec)

Name	Title	Organization	Phone #	Fax #	Email	Address	City/Village	Zip
Iver Malutin	Chair	(539-8800 Cell)	486-6068	465-1398	iver.malutin@kanaweb.org	POBox 8501	Kodiak	99615
Harvey Kitka		Sitka Tribe	747-8930		hkitusa@netscape.net	PO Box 1144	Sitka	99835
David Bill Sr.	BSAEG/Bering	Tooksook Bay TC	427-7165	427-7714		P.O. Box 52	Toksook Bay	99637
David O. David	BSAEC	Kwigillingok	588-8484	588-8913		PO Box 78	Kwigillingok	99622
Harry John Lincoln	Elders/Secy	Tununak Trad. Council	652-6040		hjltnk@aol.com	PO Box 52	Tununuk	99681
Carrie Sykes	Subst Coord	Central Council T&H	209-0792		csykes@cchita.org			
Miahael Sloan	Fish Biologist	Kawerak Inc	443-4384		msloan@kawerak.org	PO Box 948	Nome	99762
Jay Ginter	Reg. OpsChief	NMFS	586-7228		jay.ginter@noaa.gov			
Mike Miller		Sitka Tribe	752-0423		go2tbird@hotmail.com	PO Box 1124	Sitka	99835
Jim Fall	Statewide Program Manager	ADF&G	267-2359	907-267-245	jim.fall@alaska.gov	333 Raspberry Road	Anchorage	99518
Gregg Williams		IPHC	206-634-1838		gregg@iphc.washington.edu			
Karen Pletnikoff		APIA	222-4286		karenp@apia.org			
Gideon Duncan III		Hydaburg Tribe	285-3666		gidduncan@hotmail.com	PO Box 91	Hydaburg	99922
Patty Brown Schwalenberg	Ex. Dir (for Pat)	Chugach Regional Resources Com.	562-6647	562-4939	alutiiqpride1@ccrcalaska.org	6200 Lake Otis Pkwy Ste 102	Anchorage	
Richard George	Vice Pres	Tlingit/Haida Central	788-3771	788-3555		POBox 40	Angeon	
Ron Antaya		NOAA/NMFS Enforcmt	586-7225	586-7200	ronald.antaya@noaa.gov	POBox 21767	Juneau	99802
Jane DiCosimo	FisheryAnalyst	North Pacific Mgmt	271-2809	271-2817	jane.DiCosimo@noaa.gov	605 W. 4th Ave. Ste 206	Anchorage	99501
Olga Malutin	Board Sec/Treas	RurAL CAP Inc.	486-2997	486-2997	malutiiq@aol.com	353 Benny Benson Dr. #3	Kodiak	99615
Delice Calcote	Tribal Liaison	Alaska Inter-Tribal Cncl	563-9334	563-9337	delice.calcote@aitc.org	445 E. 5th Ave.	Anchorage	99501